

# **NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING**

**Posted on November 25, 2009**

## **AGENDA**

### **18th Meeting**

**DATE: Tuesday, December 1, 2009**

**TIME: 9:00 a.m.**

**PLACE: Rhode Island Ethics Commission**

**Hearing Room - 8th Floor**

**40 Fountain Street**

**Providence, RI 02903**

**1. Motion to approve minutes of Open Session held on November 17, 2009.**

**2. Advisory Opinions.**

**a.) John J. Tassoni, Jr., a legislator serving in the Rhode Island Senate, requests an advisory opinion as to whether he may enter into**

**and accept a master price agreement with the State of Rhode Island, Department of Administration, Division of Purchasing, to provide mediation services to entities other than state agencies.**

**b.) James V. Isherwood, Chairman of the Lime Rock Fire District Commission, requests an advisory opinion regarding what restrictions the Code of Ethics places on him in carrying out his duties as a member of that entity, given that his son is a firefighter employed by the Lime Rock Fire District.**

**c.) Danielle R. Coulter, a member of the Tiverton School Committee, requests an advisory opinion regarding what limitations the Code of Ethics places on her, if any, if her spouse appears before the School Committee during a School Committee workshop regarding merit pay for school personnel.**

**d.) Joseph R. Ballirano, Esq., a private attorney who performs legal work on an hourly basis for the Town of Johnston Zoning Board of Review, through the Town Solicitor's Office, requests an advisory opinion as to whether he is in any way limited by the Code of Ethics in seeking zoning relief from the Zoning Board of Review.**

**e.) Denise L. Stetson, the Richmond Town Planner, a municipal appointed position, requests an advisory opinion as to what limitations are placed upon her by the Code of Ethics when she hires a surveyor or engineer to do map work to submit to FEMA to adjust a**

**flood plain area before new FEMA maps are adopted in February.**

**f.) Judith Hetherman, CPA, a member of the Coventry School-Related Personnel Pension Committee, requests an advisory opinion as to whether the Code of Ethics limits her service on the Committee due to the fact that her sister-in-law is employed by Angell Pension Group, a third-party consultant which is under contract to help administer the pension plan.**

**3. Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(4), to wit:**

**a.) Motion to approve minutes of Executive Session held on November 17, 2009.**

**b.) Preliminary Investigation No. 2009-2.**

**c.) Motion to return to Open Session.**

**4. Motion to seal minutes of Executive Session held on December 1, 2009.**

**5. Report on actions taken in Executive Session.**

**6. Commission discussion re: Receipt of request for amendment of Regulation 5009.**

**7. Report from Legal Counsel regarding due process issues relative to:**

**a.) Complainant's role in the complaint process.**

**b.) Right to jury trial in administrative proceedings.**

**c.) Initial determinations.**

**d.) Preliminary investigations.**

**8. Director's Report:**

**a.) Docket status update.**

**9. New Business proposed for future Commission agendas.**

**10. Adjournment.**

**ANYONE WISHING TO ATTEND THIS MEETING WHO MAY HAVE SPECIAL NEEDS FOR ACCESS OR SERVICES SUCH AS A SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER, PLEASE CONTACT THE COMMISSION AT 222-3790 (V), 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE SCHEDULED MEETING. THE COMMISSION ALSO MAY BE CONTACTED THROUGH RHODE ISLAND RELAY, A TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**RELAY SERVICE, AT 1-800-RI5-555.**